Situation in Jammu & Kashmir

276. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the situation in Jammu and Kashmir has been deteriorating even after the Prime Minister's initiative;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is an open confrontation between extremists and security forces;

(c) if so, whether Pakistani arms and ammunitions are freely used by the Pakistan trained extremists; and

(d) if so, what are Government's plans to meet the threat posed by the Pakistan's continued help to the Kashmir militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) The law and order situation continues to be difficult in Jammu and Kashmir because of the presence of large number of trained militants with sophisticated arms and ammunition and continued support from across the border. However, encouraging signals are discernible in the form of surrenders by quite a few militants during the last few months and a visible change in the mood of the people.

Militants have launched several attacks on the security forces. The attacks indicate high degree of planning, motivation and use of sophisticated weapons and arms received from across the border. Security forces continue to maintain pressure on the militants.

To meet the terrorist menance in the Valley, surveillance on the Line of Control has been tightened, intelligence set up has been beefed-up and patrolling has been intensified in sensitive areas.

Crimes against women

277. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item published in Deccan Herald dated 29th January, 1991 where in it has been stated that the crimes against women are on the rise;

(b) whether Government have done any studies on these crimes and if so, what are the figures for the past three years, crime-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether Government are contemplating any change in the existing laws to plug the loopholes and protect the interests of these vulnerable sections of the society; and

(d) whether Government propose to involve voluntary and women's organisations in formulating these laws for wider acceptability and efficacy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bureau of Police Research Development have made two studies *viz* (1) Crime Against Women (1982) and (2) Unnatural Deaths of married women with a special reference year to dowry deaths (1986). Figures for the last three years i.e. 1988, 1989 and 1990 Crime-wise and State-wise are given in the enclosed Annexure. [*See* Appendix CLVII, Annexure No. 9]

(c) and (d): The Department of Women and Child Development organised a workshop on 'Women and Law' on 12-13 January, 1991 in collaboration with Indian Law Institute to review and amend the four Acts concerning women *viz.* (i) The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, (ii) The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, (iii) Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 and (iv) The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987 to make their provisions more effec-